Vacancies of S. E. Grade (C)

1717. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the year-wise vacancies in the grade of S. E. (C) commencing from the year 1977, till date ;

(b) whether it is a fact that D.P.Cs were held as provided in the rules every year, to fill up these vacancies on year-wise basis ;

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is a fact that no D.P.Cs were held during the years 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 despite the fact that vacancies were available to be filled up on regular basis ;

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor ;

(f) whether it is a fact that departmental SC/ST officers were deprived of their share in promotion due to non holding of regular D.P.Cs. and instead filling up of vacancies on an ad hoc basis ; and

(g) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) Year-wise vacancy position in the Grade of SE(C) commencing from 1977 are as under :—

1977—5	1982—1	1987—Nil
1978—4	1983—Nil	1988—Nil
1979—3	1984—Nil	1989—Nil
1980—Nil	1985—1	1990—17
1981—2	1986—4	1991—12

(b) Regular DPCs were held as follows :—

(i) In April, 1987 against vacancies for 1972 to 1982.

(ii) In April, 1987 against vacancies for 1985 & 1986.

(iii) No DPC due for 1987, 1988 & 1989, since no vacancies occured during the years.

(c) DPCs could not be held every year, as the Recruitment Rules for the Gazetted posts of Civil Engineers promulgated in September, 1976 did not contain a provisions to regulate the services of Officers recruited prior to the notification of the Rules. To rectify this an Initial Constitution Clause was incorporated in the Recruitment Rules in 1980. Appointments to the grade of Executive Engineer(C) were then regularised under the JCC in 1985. Promotion to SE (C) from EE (C) could be taken up only thereafter.

For years 1988 to 1992 reasons are given under paras (d) & (e).

(d) and (e) No DPC was held during the years 1988. 1989, 1990, 1991 and 1992 (till date). No vacancies were available in 1988 and 1989. Hence, no DPC was due. Reasons for not holding the DPCs in 1990 and 1991 are due to the non-availability of a stable Seniority List in the feeder grade of EE (C). The feeder grade of EE (C) is drawn from two streams *viz.* AEE (C) & AE (C) in the ratio of 2 : 1. There is a dispute in the stream of AE (C) among promotees *vis-a-vis* direct recruits. Court cases in various Benches of CAT are still pending. Hence, the final Seniority List could not be drawn up so far in the grade of AE (C).

(f) and (g) Reservatisn orders are not applicable in promotions from Executive Engineer (C) to SE (C) as per Government of India instructions.

Telephone Exchanges in the Country

1718. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the total number of telephone exchanges in the country, till date ; and

(b) what are the plans for increasing these during the next two years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) There are total 16070 telephone exchanges (equipped capacity of 67.82 lakh) working in the country as on 31-3-1992.

(b) Intallation of new exchanges is based on registered minimum demand of 10. In larger cities, opening of new exchanges is based on waiting list and geographical area required to be served. Accordingly new exchanges are opened based on these considerations. However, planning is done on the basis of expansion of network capacity which is installed either as new exchanges or expansion of existing exchanges. During the year 1992-93, it is proposed to add 11.44 lakh lines as per Annual Plan 1992-93. The plan for the year 1993-94 has not been finalised.

Allotment of telephones under M. P. Quota by forgoing signatures

1719. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3407 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th March, 1992 and state :

(a) what is the dates on which the complaints were received alongwith the names of the members regarding forged signatures for allotment of telephone connection under M.Ps. quota;

(b) whether sanction orders have since been cancelled ;

(c) if so, on what dates ;

(d) whether confirmation from these Members were not obtained before the issue of sanction orders ; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU) : (a) The required information is given in the statement (*See* below).

(b) to (e) Cases have been registered with the Police for investigation. Cases in which telephones had been sanctioned prior to receipt of complaint of forgery, orders for cancellation were issued on the dates given below :

1. Kumari Sushila Tiriya, M.P. 29-10-91
2. Shri Pramod Mahajan, M. P. 23-1-92
3. Shri Bindeshwari Dubey, M.P. 20-2-92
4. Shri Bekal Utsahi, M. P. 24-3-92

Some cases were sanctioned during the tenure of previous Government, there was no practice of seeking confirmation at that time. The practice was started in July/ August 91 and later discontinued in view of complaints of delay from some Members of Parliament.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the M.P.	Date on which the complaints were made
	S/Shri	
1	Manjay Lal . . .	25-7-91
2	Bindeshwari Dube .	3-2-92
3	Ajit Jogi . . .	22-2-92
4	N. Dennis . .	25-2,92
5	Ramashray Prasad Singh	17-9-91
6	Bekal Utsahi . . .	9-3-92
7	Ram Prakash Chaudhury	26-9-91
8	Dr. (Kum.) Alia .	24-7-91
9	Ms. Sushila Tiriya .	25-10-91
10	Pramod Mahajan .	26-12-91
11	P. R. Kumaramangalam, Minister of State for Law, Justice and Company Affairs.	16-4-92

Abolition of R.M.S. Sorting Offices under Orissa Postal Circle

1720. SHRI PRAVAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of the R.M.S. sorting offices, catering to the needs of rural people for expenditious delivery of dak, have been abolished or withdrawn under the Orissa Postal Circle during the year 1992 ;

(b) whether the department have received complaints from public and their representatives against this decision of closing down of R.M.S. sorting offices ; and

(c) If so, what is the decision of Government to meet the public demand of continuance of these R.M.S. sorting offices in Orissa at their existing places which were closed down in the year 1992 ?